Roy Steffey

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January 19, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft

US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

As a computer software user, I would like to take this opportunity to contact you and let you know what I think of the antitrust lawsuit against Microsoft. Microsoft has been successful for the simple reason that they had the best product on the market at the right time. Consumers were looking for a way to utilize the new technology of personal computers in the easiest way possible. Microsoft provided this ease by "bundling" its software into its Windows operating system. This was precisely what consumers were looking for. Without this technology provided by Microsoft, we would not have seen the "p.c. revolution" of the past 15 years. Most households now contain a personal computer, and this is due to the ingenuity of Microsoft.

This suit has been an unfounded waste of resources by all parties involved in this suit. I believe that while this lawsuit was unnecessary from the beginning, the settlement that has finally been reached is more than necessary at this time. The settlement is reasonable, and will put a stop to any alleged antitrust violations that may occur. There will be a three-person technical committee, which will oversee the future business practices of Microsoft to ensure that the terms of this settlement are not violated. Microsoft will not longer engage in retaliatory action against any of its competitors. Finally, Microsoft will design all future versions of Windows with a mechanism that will ease the use of non-Microsoft software within the operating system.

I hope that Microsoft can finally get back to business and that the American technology industry can continue on its way without the meddling interference of politics. Thank you for your time and for allowing me to express my opinion.

Sincerely,

Roy Steffey

Co: Representative David F. Bonior 14 Natt: 90 2002 12 1021

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FROM : Marie A. Marsh